

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 1-45 and 47 without prejudice

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-45. (canceled)

46. (original) A system for facilitating a transaction, comprising:

a memory;

a communication port; and

a processor connected to said memory and said communication port, said processor being operative to:

associate a plurality of rules with a respective plurality of entities;

determine that one of said plurality of entities is conducting a transaction;

determine a rule from said plurality of rules that is associated with said one of said plurality of entities regarding said transaction; and

authorize said transaction in accordance with said rule.

47. (canceled)

48. (new) The system of claim 46, wherein said rule is based, at least in part, on at least one of the following:

a barter credit;

a spot price for a product;

a price of a product involved in said transaction;

a minimum number of products purchased during said transaction;

a maximum number of products purchased during said transaction;

a payment term associated with said transaction;

- a delivery requirement associated with said transaction;
- a shipping requirement associated with said transaction;
- a quality requirement for a product involved in said transaction;
- bundled products associated with said transaction;
- a customer associated with said transaction;
- an amount of inventory of a product involved in said transaction; and
- availability of a product involved in said transaction.

49. (new) The system of claim 46, wherein said determining a rule from said plurality of rules includes at least one of the following:

- determining an identifier associated with said one of said plurality of entities; and
- receiving a notification of said rule.

50. (new) The system of claim 46, wherein said determining that one of said plurality of entities is conducting a transaction includes receiving a notification that one of said plurality of entities is conducting a transaction.

51. (new) The system of claim 50, wherein said receiving a notification that one of said plurality of entities is conducting a transaction includes at least one of the following:

- receiving said notification from a user device;
- receiving said notification from a server;
- receiving said notification from a device associated with a marketplace;
- receiving an electronic communication via a communications network;
- receiving a notification of a marketplace involved in said transaction;
- receiving said notification from said entity;
- receiving said notification from a marketplace involved in said transaction; and
- receiving said notification from a party other than said entity involved in said transaction.

52. (new) The system of claim 50, wherein said notification comprises at least one of the following:

- an email message;
- an XML feed;
- an HTTP transmission;
- an HTML transmission;
- an FTP transmission;
- a wireless transmission;
- an instant message communication;
- an electronic communication sent via a communications network;
- a facsimile transmission;
- a telephone signal; and
- a radio signal.

53. (new) The system of claim 46, wherein said associating a plurality of rules with a respective plurality of entities includes at least one of the following:

- determining at least one rule that will apply for an entity conducting a transaction;
- and
- receiving a notification of a rule to associate with one of said plurality of entities.

54. (new) The system of claim 46, wherein the processor is further operative to provide a notification regarding said transaction to a marketplace.

55. (new) The system of claim 46, wherein the processor is further operative to provide a notification regarding said transaction to said one of said plurality of entities.

56. (new) The system of claim 46, wherein said rule includes a condition and a result.

57. (new) The system of claim 56, wherein said condition includes at least one of the following:

- a requirement that a minimum number of products be purchased as part of said transaction;

- a requirement of a predetermined lead time between said transaction and delivery of a product involved in said transaction;

- a requirement of a predetermined lead time between said transaction and shipping of a product involved in said transaction;

- a requirement of a cumulative transactional volume over a designated time period;

- a requirement of a cumulative transactional volume by said one of said plurality of entities;

- a requirement of a cumulative transactional volume at a designated marketplace;

- a requirement of an availability of a product involved in said transaction;

- a requirement that a specific entity be involved in said transaction;

- a requirement that a specific marketplace be involved in said transaction;

- a requirement that a specific marketplace not be involved in said transaction;

- a requirement that a specific entity not be involved in said transaction;

- a requirement for an insurance policy associated with said transaction;

- a requirement that a specific product be bundled with said transaction;

- a requirement of a minimum financial amount involved in said transaction; and

- a requirement of a designated security associated with said transaction.

58. (new) The system of claim 46, wherein said transaction involves at least one of the following:

- a dynamically priced product; and

- a non-financial product.

59. (new) The system of claim 46, wherein the processor is further operative to determine a charge associated with at least one of said associating a plurality of rules

with a respective plurality of entities, said determining that one of said plurality of entities is conducting a transaction, said determining a rule from said plurality of rules that is associated with said one of said plurality of entities, and said authorizing said transaction.

60. (new) The system of claim 59, wherein the processor is further operative to provide a notification of said charge.

61. (new) The system of claim 59, wherein said charge is based, at least in part, on at least one of the following:

- a monetary amount involved in said transaction;
- a non-financial product involved in said transaction;
- a dynamically priced product involved in said transaction;
- an anticipated cost savings associated with said transaction;
- a realized cost savings associated with said transaction;
- a cost associated with said transaction relative to a benchmark;
- an anticipated benefit associated with said transaction;
- a realized benefit associated with said transaction;
- a benefit associated with said transaction relative to a benchmark;
- a delivery requirement associated with said transaction;
- a financial requirement associated with said transaction;
- a number of entities in said plurality of entities;
- a number of rules in said plurality of rules,
- a number of products involved in said transaction;
- a number of times said rule from said plurality of rules has been applied in previous transactions;
- a number of times said entity from said plurality of entities has been involved in previous transactions; and
- a marketplace involved in said transaction.

62. (new) The system of claim 46, wherein the processor is further operative to modify said rule from said plurality of rules.